

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Affolter et al.
Appl. No.: 09/936,367
Conf. No.: 4325
Filed: January 23, 2002
Title: EXPRESSION OF PROTEOLYTIC ENZYMES IN KOJI MOLD IN THE
PRESENCE OF CARBON SOURCES
Art Unit: 1656
Examiner: C. Kam
Docket No.: 112843-029

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 17, 2006 regarding the above-referenced patent application.

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on February 17, 2006. The Office Action requires restriction between two alleged groups of invention: Group I (Claims 1-6, and 9-13); and Group II (Claims 7, 8, and 14-18). Applicants elect, without traverse, Group II (Claims 7, 8, and 14-18). Also, the Office Action requires an election of species. Applicants elect *Aspergillus* as the species. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims.

Respectfully submitted,

~~BELL, BOYD~~ & LLOYD LLC

BY _____

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Dated: March 17, 2006